

Serial No. 10/608,392

Filed: June 27, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the above application in view of the above amendments and the below remarks is requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to further define the invention, claims 9 and 10 have been canceled and claims 14 to 17 have been identified as being 'withdrawn'.

In the Office Action, the Patent Office rejected claims 1 to 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 4,853,433 (Blum et al.). This rejection is traversed.

With the above amendments, Blum et al. do not teach nor suggest applicant's claimed invention. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Applicants submit that the concerns of the Patent Office have been addressed. Withdrawal of the rejections and issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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